GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:623
ANSWERED ON:26.07.2001
CLASSIFICATION OF NATURAL RUBBER
N.N. KRISHNADAS

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether natural rubber has been classified as an industrial product in the WTO agreement;

(b) if so, whether the Government have made any efforts to get the natural rubber recategorised into agricultural product;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD Y. NAIK)

(a): Yes Sir.

(b)&(c): In its initial negotiating proposals submitted to the World Trade Organisation (WTO) for the mandated negotiations under the Agreement on Agriculture, India has stressed the need for the rationalization of the product coverage of the Agreement by including primary agricultural commodities like rubber. The said mandated negotiations are under way.

(d): Question does not arise.